

15 November 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Problem: Should Pan American resume flying service to Havana within the next few days

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1. The first Soviet and Cuban reaction would be one of puzzlement. Few would be able to understand why the US was adopting this course when its immediate problems with the USSR were far from settlement and its future relations with Cuba completely undefined. Both Soviet and Cuban leaders might, therefore, suspect that the US was up to some ingenious kind of monkey business.

2. If the above leaders became convinced that the US was indeed playing it straight, they would almost certainly consider the resumption as an indicator of a softening of the US position. UN members who have considered the US unreasonably hard-nosed on the IL-28 question would probably step up their pressure on the US to settle quickly for a softer solution.

3. If by any chance Castro would permit Cubans to leave the country there would be an intelligence gain. It is highly

unlikely, however, that we would learn through these sources
what we want to know of the Mikoyan-Castro discussions.



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